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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Thomas Jessell et al.  
Serial No.: 10/789,308 Examiner : Daniel C. Gamett  
Filed : February 26, 2004 Group : 1647  
For : SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SCREENING FOR MODULATORS OF  
NEURAL DIFFERENTIATION

30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112  
January 5, 2009

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 3, 2008 OFFICE ACTION**

This Communication is submitted in response to an October 3, 2008 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the October 3, 2008 Office Action is due January 3, 2009. However, under 37 C.F.R. §1.7(a), when the last day for taking any action in the United States Patent and Trademark Office falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the action may be taken on the next succeeding business day. Since January 3, 2009 was a Saturday, a response filed on the next succeeding business day, i.e. Monday, January 5, 2009, is to be considered timely. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.